

OCTOBER 1995

IMPORT HEALTH REQUIREMENTS OF JAPAN  
FOR BOVINE EMBRYOS FROM THE UNITED STATES

The embryos must be accompanied by a U.S. Origin Health Certificate issued by a veterinarian authorized by the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) and endorsed by a Veterinary Services (VS) veterinarian. The certificate shall contain the name and address of the consignor, including the name of the embryo collection facility and the name and address of the consignee. It should also include the name, breed, identification, and the registration numbers of both the donor female and the donor bull.

The following are the animal health requirements and the U.S. origin health certificate to be used for bovine embryos exported to Japan.

1. The United States of America has been free from foot-and-mouth disease, rinderpest, contagious bovine pleuropneumonia, bovine spongiform encephalopathy, lumpy skin disease, Rift Valley fever and trypanosomiasis for at least six (6) months prior to the collection of the exported embryos.
2. The donor female for the exported embryos has been resident in the U.S. for at least six (6) months prior to the collection of the exported embryos.
3. During the two (2) year period preceding the collection of the exported embryos, no clinical cases of malignant catarrhal fever, coital exanthema, Aujeszky's disease, bluetongue, vesicular stomatitis, leptospirosis or Q fever have been diagnosed on the farm of origin of the donor female.
4. During the three (3) month period prior to the collection of the exported embryos, no cases of infectious bovine rhinotracheitis (IBR), trichomoniasis or campylobacteriosis have occurred on the farm of origin of the donor female.
5. The donor female originates from farms recognized as free of bovine tuberculosis and brucellosis.  
**\*\*\*NOTE: This means that either the herds were actually accredited/certified, or the herds were located in a free state, or the AVIC has no reason to suspect either tuberculosis or brucellosis in the herd (similar to the requirements for live cattle exported to Japan.)**
6. During the sixty (60) day period prior to the collection of the exported embryos, the donor female has remained clinically free of contagious diseases.
7. The semen used in fertilizing the ova came from donor bulls which met the animal health requirements for bovine semen to be exported to Japan from the United States. In case the United States of America was not the country of origin of the semen, an original or a copy inspection certificate, which was issued by the government authorities of the country of origin satisfying that the semen met the animal health requirements established between the two government authorities of Japan and the country of origin, accompanies the inspection certificate issued by USDA.
8. The donor female must be tested and found negative to the following tests not less than 30 days nor more than 120 days after the exported embryo is collected, and the tests, except that for tuberculosis, must

be conducted in laboratories designated by USDA as ones to conduct such tests.

(1) Tuberculosis: Intradermal caudal fold test with bovine PPD tuberculin

(2) Vesicular stomatitis: CF test (negative at 1:5 dilution) OR SN test (negative at 1:8 dilution)

9. The exported embryos shall be collected and processed by a USDA accredited veterinarian.
  10. The exported embryos were successively washed at least 10 times with each progressive washing diluted 1:100 and were washed twice with 0.25% sterile trypsin for a total trypsin exposure time of 60-90 seconds, in accordance with procedures recommended by the International Embryo Transfer Society (IETS) under the supervision of a USDA accredited veterinarian.
  11. The exported embryos were examined microscopically according to procedures recommended by the IETS under the supervision of a USDA accredited veterinarian. As a result of the examination, only embryos which have intact zona pellucida and from which cumulus cells are completely removed are eligible for export to Japan.
  12. The exported embryos are packed in the ampoules/straws which are permanently marked with the name of the donor dam and sire, the breed of the donor dam and sire, the individual identification numbers of the donor female and bull, and the date of collection. Only one embryo per ampoule/straw is permitted.
  13. The ampoules/straws were maintained in a separate basket for the exported embryos in the storage tank at a storage facility designated by USDA and were maintained there under the supervision of a USDA accredited veterinarian until they were placed in the shipping tank and the shipping tank was sealed with the seal of USDA.
- \*\*\*NOTE: USDA-APHIS does not need to physically approve the storage facility. As long as the AVIC has no reason to believe the embryos were not maintained under the supervision of the accredited veterinarian, this statement can be endorsed.**
14. The shipping tank is either new or cleaned and disinfected under the supervision of a USDA accredited veterinarian and only fresh liquid nitrogen has been used to charge the tank.
  15. The shipment shall be routed directly to Japan and no stops will be made en route other than in the U.S.
  16. The health certificate issued by a USDA accredited veterinarian and endorsed by a USDA Veterinary Services veterinarian shall accompany the embryos and state:

**\*\*\*NOTE: The health certificate to be used is attached to the end of this document.**

(1) Each requirement of items 1 to 7, 10, 11, and 14

(2) Dates, methods and results of each examination in item 8.

(3) The name and address of the laboratories where the tests were conducted in item 8.

(4) Dates of the semen collection, and the name and address of the

facility where semen was collected.

(5) Dates of insemination for the donor female.

(6) Dates of the exported embryo collection and the name and address of the facility where the exported embryos were collected.

(7) The breed, name, and registry number of the donor female and donor bull.

(8) The identification numbers marked on the ampoules/straws containing the exported embryos.

(9) The number of the seal used to seal the shipping tank in item 13.

Health Certificate No: \_\_\_\_\_  
(Valid only if official USDA seal appears  
over the health certificate no.)

U.S. ORIGIN HEALTH CERTIFICATE FOR THE EXPORT  
OF BOVINE EMBRYOS TO JAPAN

I. Identification of Embryos  
Date of collection: \_\_\_\_\_ ID No. of cane: \_\_\_\_\_  
Number of straws: \_\_\_\_\_ Number of embryos: \_\_\_\_\_  
USDA Seal number: \_\_\_\_\_

Identification of Donor Cow  
Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Breed: \_\_\_\_\_  
Registration no: \_\_\_\_\_ Insemination date: \_\_\_\_\_

Identification of Donor Sire  
Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Breed: \_\_\_\_\_  
Registration no: \_\_\_\_\_ Date of semen collection: \_\_\_\_\_

Name and Address of semen collection center: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

II. Origin of Embryos:  
Name and address where the Embryos were collected: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Name and Address of the Exporter: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

III. Destination of the Embryos  
Name and address of importer: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

IV. Certification Statements

1. The United States has been free from foot-and-mouth disease, rinderpest, contagious bovine pleuropneumonia, bovine spongiform encephalopathy, lumpy skin disease, Rift valley fever, and trypanosomiasis for at least six (6) months prior to collection of embryos for export.
2. The donor female has been resident in the United states for at least six (6) months prior to the collection of embryos for export.
3. During the 2 years preceding the collection of embryos for export, no clinical cases of malignant catarrhal fever, coital exanthema, Aujeszky's disease, bluetongue, vesicular stomatitis, leptospirosis, or Q fever have been diagnosed on the farm of origin of the donor females.
4. Within three months prior to collection of the embryos for export, no cases of infectious bovine rhinotracheitis (IBR), campylobacteriosis, or trichomoniasis have occurred on the farm of origin of the donor females.
5. The donor females originate from farms recognized as free of bovine tuberculosis and brucellosis.
6. During the 60 days prior to the collection of embryos for export to Japan, the donor females have remained clinically free of contagious diseases.
7. The semen used in fertilizing the ova came from donor bulls which met the animal health requirements for bovine semen to be exported to Japan from the United States. In case the United States of America was not the country of origin of the semen, an original or a copy inspection certificate, which was issued by the government authorities of the country of

Health Certificate No: \_\_\_\_\_  
(Valid only if official USDA seal appears  
over the health certificate no.)

origin satisfying that the semen met the animal health requirements established between the two government authorities of Japan and the country of origin, accompanies the inspection certificate issued by USDA.

8. The embryos for export have been collected and processed by a USDA accredited veterinarian.
9. The embryos were successively washed at least 10 times with each progressive washing diluted 1:100 and were washed twice with 0.25% sterile trypsin for a total trypsin exposure time of 60-90 seconds, in accordance with procedures recommended by the International Embryo Transfer Society (IETS) under the supervision of a USDA accredited veterinarian.
10. The embryos were examined microscopically according to procedures recommended by the IETS under the supervision of a USDA accredited veterinarian and only embryos with intact zona pellucida and from which cumulus cells are completely removed are in this shipment.
11. The embryos are packed in ampoules/straws which are permanently marked with the name of the donor dam and sire, the breed of the donor dam and sire, the individual identification numbers of the donor dam and sire, and the date of collection. Only one embryo per ampoule/straw is permitted.
12. The ampoules/straws were maintained in a separate basket for embryos for Japan in the storage tank at a storage facility designated by USDA and were maintained there under the supervision of a USDA accredited veterinarian until such time as they were placed in the shipping tank and the shipping tank was sealed with the seal of USDA. The seal numbers are recorded on this health certificate.
13. The shipping tank is either new or it has been cleaned and disinfected under the supervision of a USDA accredited veterinarian and only fresh liquid nitrogen has been used to charge the tank.
14. The shipment shall be routed directly to Japan and no stops will be made en route other than in the United States.

#### V. TEST REQUIREMENTS

15. The donor females have been tested and found negative to the following tests not less than 30 days nor more than 120 days after the embryos are collected. These tests, except tuberculosis, were conducted in laboratories designated by USDA as laboratories approved to conduct the tests.

(1) Tuberculosis: intradermal caudal fold test with bovine PPD tuberculin Date of test: \_\_\_\_\_

(2) Vesicular Stomatitis: complement fixation (CF) test negative at 1:5 dilution Date of test: \_\_\_\_\_

Laboratory: \_\_\_\_\_  
Address: \_\_\_\_\_

OR serum neutralization (SN) test negative at 1:8 dilution Date of test: \_\_\_\_\_  
Laboratory: \_\_\_\_\_  
Address: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Type or Print - Name and Address  
of Issuing Accredited Veterinarian

\_\_\_\_\_  
Type or Print - Name of Endorsing  
Federal Veterinarian

(\_\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_  
Date Endorsed and Signature -  
Endorsing Federal Veterinarian

Health Certificate No: \_\_\_\_\_  
(Valid only if official USDA seal appears  
over the health certificate no.)

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature - Accredited Veterinarian

(Valid only if USDA Veterinary Seal  
Appears over the Signature of the  
Endorsing Federal Veterinarian)